Depot Town Rag

Volume 16, Number 4 *"All the news in one block in one month."*

100% FREE
Rag Content
April 1993

- The Quilt
- 1948 Directory
- *More Memos*
- Silly Museum
- Breakfast at Miller's

and other strictly local stuff. . . .

A Publication of the DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION, INC. The Old Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

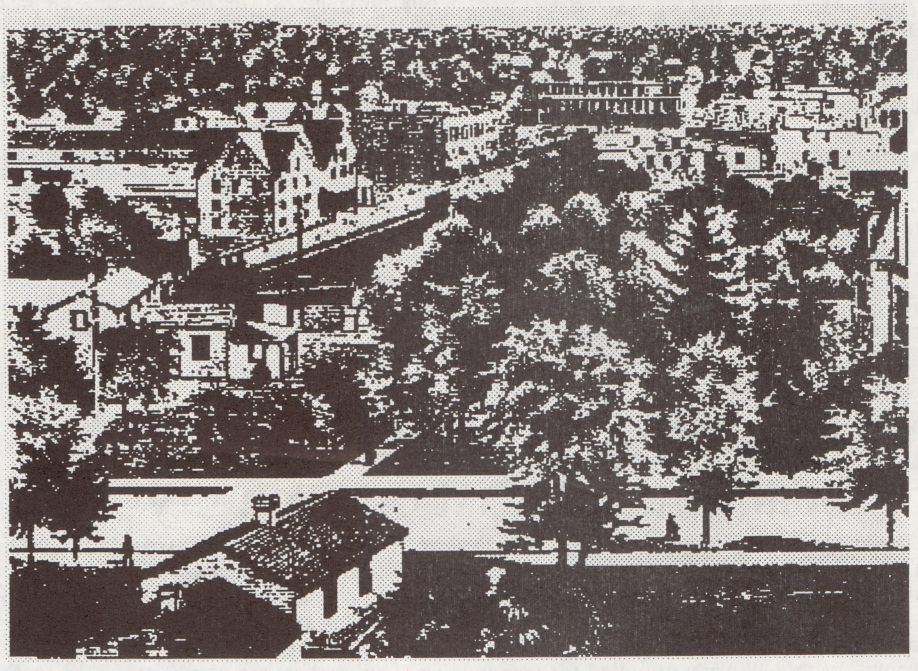
No fooling, it's news

Not many years ago, the April issues of *The Depot Town Rag* tried to carry on the old folk tradition of April Fool's Day by printing a lot of silly stuff about the neighborhood. One year told about a plan to enclose the district under a dome with trains entering and leaving through giant flaps like those cut in storm doors to let cats or dogs in and out. The City Fire Department, according to that article, would come in twice a year to hose down all the dust.

Another year showed 'golden arches' over the old depot and suggested that it was about to become a fast food joint.

Elegant as the drawings were — and funny as the writers hoped their parodies would be — some of our readers just didn't get it. They must believe that, if you read it in the newspaper, it's true. They fully expected these minor miracles to appear right along with the recent major miracles seen on the block in recent years.

So *The Rag* stopped printing April Fool's jokes. But some readers didn't notice that either. Many of the 'straight news' items appeared so foolish that they were suspected to be jokes, too. Whadaya gonna do?



Frank Smith sold little books with etchings of local scenes from his variety store in Ypsilanti around 1890. This view of Depot Town from the towers of the Presbyterian Church is one of many in the reprints which were made available again through the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation in 1985 . The Tyner house, in the lower left corner, is a little less saggy; just a bit of Old Town Hall shows on the right with several builidngs standing to the north; Drubel's Mill stood just across the Cross Street Bridge. Other than than, the old neighborhood looks pretty much the same today.

Depot Exchange started the antiques tradition

Success closes district's original antique shop

Depot Town's first antique store - which is credited with starting the entire neighborhood ethic of shopping for things ancient and charming - has been closed by its own great success in Ypsilanti's railroad district.

"We started out as a junk store," says co-owner Steve Gross, "but the advice and interest of friends and customers drove us into the antique business." Steve and his partner, Linda French, began Depot Exchange Antiques in the 1970's on the north side of the street, then moved to the former VFW Hall at 56 East Cross when it became available. "The Shankwilers had just bought the old cleaners next door and were gutting the place. There was a plumbers shop in the block and a few TV repair businesses. The Central and Alibi bars were pretty rough places then, and the broken concrete sidewalks were choked with weeds."

If those weren't the good old days, the popularity of Depot Exchange certainly helped lead the block into what could later be called its "good new days." Gross and French became new owners of The Central Bar and about five years ago Linda became the sole owner of the Sidetrack as Steve branched out to the antique auction business, holding monthly events in the Freighthouse. Both those enterprises have become enormously successful. "We just got to a point where something had to give," says Gross of their both feeling they couldn't give their attention to the original business of buying and selling antiques.

As improvements continue at Linda's business and as Steve's auctions take more and more of his time and expertise, the antique store remains closed. "We still don't have a plan for what to do with that space. It's going to remain empty for a while, then maybe open up as a small, high-quality shop of antiques and collectibles."

Annual reminder to bike riders:

Piles of snow are gone
and beds of flowers will follow.
Bicycles can't be too far behind.
Just follow two simple ordinances
and we'll all be
safe and happy:

- Vehicles belong in the street.
- Walkers belong on the sidewalks.
- Please *walk your bike* when in pedestrian areas.

Thanks for your consideration.

Breakfast at Miller's makes Parlor a true 'emporium'

Anyone who can remember the Ice Cream Parlor that used to hold forth on East Michigan Avenue must attest to the fact that its move to Depot Town made that enterprise into what Victorians regularly called an 'emporium.' Such appellation was given to *a large store with a wide variety of things for sale*, and that is certainly the case with today's Miller's Ice Cream Parlor and Emporium at 42 East Cross Street.

With the addition of a full breakfast menu since January, this neat-as-a-pin kitchen and counter establishment goes far beyond the concept of simply scooping out ice cream cones to the local kids.

After its reopening in Depot Town, a coffee pot was added - followed by a complete line of unique gifts and cards. A Christmas corner offers year-round surprises, and country craft items predominated.

This was followed by the addition of an excellent array of sandwiches for lunch time orders. In time, so many were coming in for their morning coffee and a muffin, that owner Gwen Blackmer decided to add a comprehensive breakfast menu.

"It's as big a breakfast menu as any in town," say Gwen's morning regulars, from eggs and bacon to a wide variety of pancakes, waffles and other morning staples.

Dateline: Depot Town:

Old Town Café expected to open this month

The first phase of the dramatic re-do of an old favorite in this block is expected to open sometime in April. Steve Beckett and his partners, Sandee and Bill French, have spent much of the winter season rebuilding what was the Old Town Restaurant and predict their customers will be amazed at the similarities and the changes in the new version -- called the Old Town Café.

A large breakfast menu continues the previous tradition, with a separate menu for lunch and dinner. Many of the old favorite items are scheduled to return with this grand reopening.

New facade treatment and an atmosphere of cozy booths and a counter area will, no doubt, convince some that nothing's been changed, but it's all new.

Work will continue on the two portions of the building to the west, with even more unique entreprenurial surprises to fill up that portion of the block as we approach August's annual Heritage Festival.

Victorian paper products found at River Artworks

'Rainbow Rose' came to the district's elegant frame shop last November and business has been so good she's expanding her line of Victoriana. 'Rose' is really Sharon VanRyte, wife of shop owner Paul Fetters, and her line of products includes such old-style memorabilia as cards, gift wrap, Victorian place cards, calling cards, stickers, reproduction playing cards, Easter candy boxes, portfolios with matching file folders and masks in the 19th Century paper product tradition.

"We'll be adding more gift products and items related to trains between now and August," says Rose/Sharon, proud and happy that her tiny corner of the shop has been so successful these past months.

The shop's recent interior improvements have set the stage for showing off this product line so appropriate to the district's tradition of unique shopping experiences of that period.

Although she had toyed with the name "Lilies and Lace" for this endeavor, VanRyte returned to a business name she had used before in this block. Who can remember the other "Rainbow" enterprises of sixteen years ago? Here's one that lay dormant for a while, then bloomed again. And what a beautiful blossom it is. Check out Rose's garden soon.

Spring installation of awnings expected on Hon's Flowers

On of the loveliest windows in town will soon see awnings stretched above them and around the corner on Ninde Street. As Joe Wizauer's Hon's Flowers celebrates its ??th year in the business, those elegant window displays of flowers and gifts will now be framed by the same color teal awnings that appeared over Reid's Hair Station earlier this year - to provide continuity to the building's facade.

NAMES Project's Quilt gets support of local quilter/artist community

The Detroit Metro Chapter of the NAMES Project has plans to display 2400 panels of The Quilt at Cobo Center on May 20-23. Citing the urgency in creating a public awareness toward the fight against AIDS in the surrounding metroplex, this area has not experienced The Quilt since 1989. A portion of The Quilt was put on exhibit at EMU last fall. As of November , 3,065,822 people have visited The Quilt, which is made up of more than twenty-two thousand 3' X 6' sewn together panels. With walkways provided for viewing, The Quilt covers the equivalent of 13 football fields. It weighs 25.6 tons and has been represented in 29 countries.

"It is time to re-educate our citizens to the crisis of HIV/AIDS," says the Chapter, whose headquarters are in Taylor. Their plan to re-educate will revolve around local direct care service organizations and school systems in the immediate area.

The Quilt has come to represent not only the significance of the lives of those who have died from AIDS, it also brings the impact of the disease to the awareness of millions of people around the world. Through public showing of The Quilt, the NAMES Project goals are:

- To illustrate the enormity of the AIDS epidemic by showing the humanity behind the statistics.
- To provide a positive and creative means of expression for those whose lives have been touched by the AIDS epidemic.
- To support the raising of vital funds and encourage support for people living with AIDS/HIV and their loved ones.

The NAMES Project had its beginnings in the Spring of 1987 when a small group of people gathered in San Francisco to create a lasting and visible symbol of the devastation wrought by the AIDS epidemic. With only a few needles, thread and scraps of fabric, they began to create a tribute which soon took the shape of a quilt. Who then could have imagined the impact their homespun fabric memorial would have on the consciousness of America and the world?

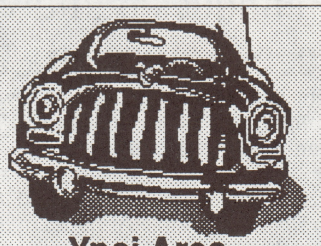
You can help:

I. Bring a group to The Quilt. All groups are encouraged to visit The Quilt. High risk groups, including people of color, intravenous drug users, women at risk, and school-age youth are especially urged to attend.

II. Make a monetary contribution to the Metro Detroit NAMES Project in honor of The Quilt. Their goals is to raise $100,000 for AIDS service organizations in Metro Detroit. Funds will also be used to help defray the expenses of the display. You can become a Panel Sponsor for $15, but any amount is encouraged.

III. Volunteer to help. This display needs many volunteers. You can help with set-up/take-down, unfolding, monitoring, sales, emotional support, volunteer check-in, overnight security, etc. The Chapter is particularly looking for teens to act as greeters at The Quilt.

For more information contact: The NAMES Project
P.O. Box 303, Taylor, MI 48180, (313) 753-NAME



Ypsi Area
Street Rods Association
Annual Kick-Off Party
in Depot Town
6-9pm Saturday
1 May 1993
The public is invited to inspect
more than 350 vintage autos on exhibit
around the Freighthouse
and north parking lot
The exhibit continues at Ford Lake Park the remainder of the weekend.

Ypsilanti's Farmers' Market

April

4/3 Easter Craft Show
Crafts, flowers, foods
4/10 Youth Sales Day
Call to reserve space
4/17 Humane Society Day
Animal awareness activities
4/24 Earth Day 1993
Recycling, composting, environmental learning

Market Hours:
Wednesday and Saturday 7am - 3pm
Open year 'round
in the railroad freighthouse
Ample Free Parking
Live music every Saturday am
For information: 483-1480

Licensed *Insured*

D.L. Church CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING & REMODELING
Reliable & Experienced
In All Phases of
Residential Construction

Les Church • 105 Babbitt • Ypsilanti, MI 48198
(313) 483-1237

The Robert Hoeft Company, Realtors
Suite 150-124, 101 North Main Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

PRESENTS A
5 1/2%
LISTING FEE

Laura Zabel Ford, realtor
Sales Manager
millin dollar producer

Business Office: (313) 663-0180
Home Office (313) 434-4559

We do MORE for LESS!!!

buyers USA
Relocation

45 years ago in the Ypsilanti directory

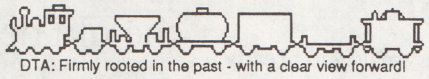
Recently discovered under a desk at Miller Motors, the following is the listing in the *1948 Polk's Ypsilanti Directory* for the buildings on East Cross and North River Streets in Depot Town. Added parentheses indicate the current occupants. Indented names and 1/2 addresses indicate residents of upstairs apartments in 1948.

CROSS E
10 Lennox Hdw dlrs
(Esquire Draperies, Eastern Guide)
15 Anderson & Deck Service
auto repr and filling sta
(Counseling Center, Card Shop, Knit Shop, The Teachers Shop)
Rice begins
16 Vacant
(J & R Trading Post)
17 Ypsilanti Cartage & Storage Co
(J & R Trading Post, Daily Grind)
Aero Mayflower Transit Co
20 City Body Shop auto pntg
(City Body)
Gonyou Ernest J
20 1/2 Nelson LeRoy
22 Ring's Beer Store
23 Sutton Paint Supply
23 1/2 Sutton Richd W
24 Ring's Hi-Speed Service filling sta
(Old Towne Coin & Gold)
25 US PO Sta A
(Depot Doo)
25 1/2 Clemons Olin
27 Ypsi Sheet Metal & Roofing Co
(Stitchin' Shop)
Lawson & Nelson barbers
Townsley Ellis
29 Spencer Clarence E. gro
(Jas. MacDonald/Apple Annie's)
30 Fulford Produce (whol) (vacant)
31 Robbins Refrigeration Co
(burned, walkway)
31 1/2 Deist Mollie E. Mrs
32-34 Sinkule Mkt (Old Town Restaurant)
33 Davis Ann M restr
(Cross Street Antiques)
33 1/2 Fraternal Order of Eagles
(Serenity House)
35 Standard Printing Co
(Hansen's Standard Printing Co)
36 Millage Arth W
Turner Louie T restr
(Old Town Restaurant)
37 Weber Alf E drugs
(Red Rooster)
37 1/2 Butler Edw E
38 East Side Variety Shop
(Old Town Restaurant)
39-41 Ken's Bar tavern
(Aubree's Saloon)
40 DeVee Morgan barber
(Ike's Barbershop)
Newell Block (apts)
Brown Boyd
Belangie Nelson E
Bristol Wm
Oas Arnold
Carrier Wallace
Kerns Albert
Mull Lloyd
Redding Juilia Mrs
44 Lee & Cady whol gros
(Miller's Ice Cream Parlor)
Ninde ends
46-50 Fletcher & Fletcher photog
(Hon's Flowers, River Artworks, Richard Reid's Hair Station)
46 1/2 Cooper Jas
Appl Inoa Mrs
Fitzsimmons Frances Mrs
52 Economy Cleaners clo clnrs
(Underhill/Artrain bldg)
54 University Lithoprinters The
(Depot Exchange Antiques)
56 Christos Geo beer and lunch
(Sidetrack)
56 1/2 Christos Geo
MCRR crosses
nw cor NYC System pass and frt depot
(Farmers' Market)
Railway Express Agency
N. River intersects
100 Hudson Sales & Service autos
(Miller Motors)
107 No return
(vacant)
RIVER N from Ninde
(Photo Street)
308 VerBurg Clarence A farm machy
(MacMullen architect)
310 Eberlin Harry R htg appliances
(Sourdough bakery)
311 First Evangelistic Tabernacle
(church)
312 M & M Coal Co
(Food Co-op)
315 Wilson Jas E
(house & parking lot)
323 1/2 Camp's Photog
(above Depot Exchange)
MCRR crosses
E. Cross intersects
400-06 Thompson O E & Sons
agrl implts mfrs
(Fantasee Lighting)
Allied Manufacturers Inc mfrs agts
(Huron Valley Tool & Die)
408-10 City Store House
Street Commissioner
(Thompson Block Antiques)

Depot Town ClearingHouse

Commercial & Residential Properties available
in Ypsilanti's historic railroad district
Call: 482-6371 or 485-8228
for the current listing

Depot Town Association, Inc., 18 March 1993


DTA: Firmly rooted in the past - with a clear view forward!

President Dave Blackmer re-introduced Hoss and Bob, representing the **Ypsi Area Street Rods Association** to continue their planning of the Saturday, May 2 Kick-Off Party to be held in the Market Plaza and north parking lot from 6 - 9 pm. They expect more than 350 cars on exhibit and will need porta-johns and blockades. Registration for their Ford Lake Park weekend show will be in the Freighthouse and a disk jockey will perform from the bandstand. Dave will coordinate with City Parks and Recreation director, Amy McMillan, for the April DTA meeting.

Vice president Judi Monaghan presided over the rest of the meeting.

Gary Acree of Namco Systems, Inc., presented a proposal for a fund-raiser through the selling of $695 ads on a plastic telephone book cover. Possibilities will be explored for a decision at the April meeting.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved as published.

The treasury stands at $6455.85 in the general fund. Bettie Dodd sent out thirty-seven statements for Rag sponsorships with eleven responding with long-term sponsorships into 1993. Statements of thanks and publications covered will follow to all sponsors. Only one payment for the 1992 Frog Island program book remains outstanding.

Old Business:

- DDA has received the third **bid for caboose repair** and the contract was awarded to Scott Klaassen who will finish the work by August 1.
- **The landscaping plan for the Signal Tower** has been received from Bob Doyle and cut back to fit the space currently available. Installation will take place when the weather conditions permit.
- A plan for the **Heritage Jazz Competition** in August has been submitted to City, WEMU, and Steve Gross, our representative to the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival planning committee. There have be responses yet.
- Landscape architects, Beckett & Raeder, have been contracted by the DDA to explore the possibility of developing **south side parking.**

New Business:

Huron RiverFest '93 will take place May 14 - 22 with 30 canoeists stopping/breakfasting/camping in Depot Town on Wednesday, May 19.

Frog Island Jazz Festival program will again be published by DTA, with ad payments made before publication. The Festival date is June 18, 19 and 20 .

Farmers' Market/Freighthouse Advisory report by Pam Hamblin: A brochure of building rental information is imminent, discussion continues re: permanent installations, kitchen licensing. Porta-johns are now required for groups of over 51. There is the possibility of a huge railroad show in the Freighthouse for Heritage Festival with vendors outside at the north end. Next Market Advisory meeting is 7pm Monday, 19 April to further discuss the plan to develop a west entry.

A proposal has been made to DDA to fund **streetside flower planting** this spring. Volunteers will still be needed to plant and continue weekly maintenance of the district's many gorgeous gardens.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Strictly local stuff:

April 1993

Depot Towners are invited to participate in any or all of the following activities for the good of this old commercial district:

Depot Town Association
7:30 p.m. Thursday, 15th
J&R Trading Post

Depot Town Antique Engine Club
7:30 pm 22nd
at the Freighthouse

THE DEPOT TOWN RAG

A publication of the Depot Town Association, Inc. a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character of the neighborhood and to the enhancement of its business climate.

-Tom Dodd, editor

The Depot Town Association, Inc.
David Blackmer, president
c/o The Old Caboose
400 Market Place
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

You can rent
The Old Caboose
. . . for your party, dinner, or meeting . . .
($25 + deposit)
Call 483-4256.

Elect Gary McKeever for your Charter Commissioner

• 25 years with Ford Motor • Depot Town property owner
• Past President: Ford Runners Club • Past President: Depot Town Association
• Board President: Ypsilanti Recycling Project
• Supports STRONG CITY MANAGER • Supports JOBS TO LOCAL CONTRACTORS
• Supports WARD REPRESENTATION • Nasty when necessary
- paid for by the Committee to Elect Gary McKeever -

Guarantee
Your support makes a difference!

Please include me among the members of
The Depot Town Association, Inc.

Name _____
Street _____
City_____State_____ZIP _____

I'm available to help with Association projects. Call me at _____
Annual dues:
o $25 Regular Member (Property or business owner)
o $10 Associate Member (Interested in and supportive)
o $100 Life Member (A great deal if you had joined in 1976!)
o Please place my name on the monthly mailing list of *The Depot Town Rag*
o Don't mail *The Rag*. I'll pick it up in the neighborhood.
$ Clip and send check to "Depot Town Association"
c/o The Old Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

Swing into Spring with. . .
quality printing!
HANSEN'S
STANDARD PRINTING
35. E. Cross • Depot Town
Ypsilanti, Michigan
(313) 483-0339
Serving Ypsilanti Since 1939

Ancient rail yard memos concluded: Security needed for cash drawer

When Market Manager Gary Urick first passed on Chris Miranda's discovery of dozens of early memos from the Ypsilanti Freighthouse, the editors were fascinated - but didn't know if the readership would really care about such trivia. After February's exposé of the 14 directives needed to re-shape the dock/platform in 1930, regular readers responded. "Give us more of this local junk!" they demanded. March saw 14 more memos dealing with updating the heating system by piping the steam under the tracks from the greenhouse at the depot.

This month sees the final installment in the series, in which attention is directed at the need for a lock on the Freighthouse cash drawer. No sooner does the barrage of bureaucracy begin than it is noted that the dock is not all that the 1931 memos had hoped for. The boiler, too, needs more work and more memos. Doubtless many others followed over the years, but they were not included in this discovery.

The security question continues, however, and is resolved in the passage of only seven memos before a lock and cage are installed in the vernerable Freighthouse at Ypsilanti.

Detroit, Sept. 15, 1934
Mr. E. E. Wright, Superintendent
Dear Sir: Please see your letter of Aug. 23, file 227-44, regarding protection for the Cashier at Ypsilanti.

It will cost about $60.00 to provide the protection as shown in your letter. This amount will provide the screen and the labor placing it.

Yours truly, Chas. F. Green, Div. Fman of Bldgs.

Detroit, September 11th, 1937
Mr. H.A. Horning
Dear Sir: I am in receipt of a request from the Agent at Ypsilanti that we furnish a lock for the money drawer in his Freight Office at Ypsilanti which is at present inoperative.

I wish to call to you attention that this present drawer is a wooden affair and it may be possible that you have a more up to date steel lined drawer, which is the kind used in the majority of ticket offices.

This matter is being referred to you as it is possible that a steel lined drawer may have been salvaged from some station that has been permanently closed. Will you please advise.

Yours truly, E.E. Wright, Superintendent

Jackson, Mich. Sept. 14, 1937
Mr. J.L. Harden, Div. Foreman, Detroit,
Dear Sir: Please not attached from Mr. Wright in regard to money drawer for Freight Office at Ypsilanti.

Please arrange for such attention as you deem necessary, and advise when done.

Yours truly, FJH:E, Supt. Buildings

Jackson, Mich. Sept. 17, 1934
Mr. Geo. H. Harris, Chief Engineer
Dear Sir: For your information will advise that Division Foreman Green has given Superintendent Wright an estimate of $60.00 for providing wire screen protection for Cashier at Ypsilanti Freight Office.

Yours truly, FJH:E, Supt. Buildings

Detroit, Nov. 2, 1937
Mr. H.A. Horning, Supt. of Buildings
Dear Sir: I return herewith Mr. Wright's letter sent me with yours of Sept. 14th, file Y 37, relative to the money drawer for the Freight office at Ypsilanti.

This drawer was installed Oct. 28th.

Yours truly, J.L. Hardin, Div. Fman of Bldgs.

Jackson, Mich. Nov. 3, 1937
Mr. E.E. Wright, Superintendent, Detroit,
Dear Sir: Referring to your letter of September 11th., file 227-44, in regard to money drawer at Ypsilanti Freight Office:

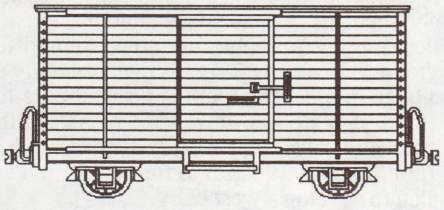
For your information, will advise that a new standard money drawer was installed October 28th., 1937.

Yours truly, FJH:E, Supt. Buildings

Jackson, Mich., Nov. 10, 1939
Mr. L.W. Fisher, Trainmaster, Jackson,
Dear Sir: Your letter of Nov. 4th., file 8661 - 7292 - 7825, requesting estimated costs of painting the freight offices at Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, two coats each:

It is estimated it will cost $50.00 at each of these two points.

Yours truly, HAH:E, Supt. Buildings



Back to the boiler

Detroit, Dec. 3, 1936
Mr. H.A. Horning, Supt. of Buildings
Dear Sir: Attached find bill from O.A. Hankinson & Co., of Ypsilanti, amount $4.24, for repairs to Arcola boiler at the Freight House, Ypsilanti.

This bill is correct. Will you please arrange for voucher.

Yours truly, J.L Harden, Div. Fman of Bldgs.

Jackson, Mich., Dec. 4, 1936
Mr. E.A. Hancock, Dept. Accountant
Dear Sir: I am enclosing herewith bill from O.A. Hankinson & Co., amounting to $4.24, for repairing heating boiler at Ypsilanti Freight House.

Bill is correct, and I would be pleased if you will arrange for voucher to cover.

Yours truly, FJH:E, Supt. Buildings

New dock is faulty

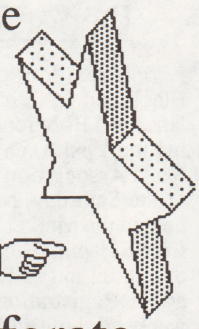
Ypsilanti, Mich. May 18th, 1935
Mr. E.E. Wright, Superintendent, Detroit, Mich.
Dear Sir: When the building department rebuilt the platform for the freight house at this station they used a number of plank that have been creosoted, and now that the weather is getting warm the sun boils it out and makes the platform slippery, it is also very bad about tracking in not only here but at home.

Furthermore some patron coming to the freight-house might ruin a pair of shoes or a suite of clothes.

I suggest that something be done at least to that portion in front of the office and the steps leading down to the east. Will you please have this taken care of at an early date.

Yours truly, H.C. Renwick

Something else to do with the old depot:



Shrink-Wrap Museum

Ideas proliferate for silly museum

Probably the longest and most creative list of district promotional ideas centers around the still-empty depot for the which the district is named. Earlier concepts have included a variety of restaurant schemes, a model railroad club, firewood, and a shelter for the homeless. Some radicals once even went so far as to suggest that the depot could become a center for transportation services in the community! And then somebody said, "How can we really be serious about drawing tourists if we don't have a Wax Museum?"

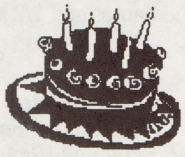
Last month saw a totally new concept batted about the neighborhood, somewhat akin to nameless and anonymous towns which offer up Halls of Fame to something or other or find great local fame through the establishment of yet another Presidential Library.

The new concept was to be called the "Museum of The Stars," making no claim that the stars had ever been there, but at least the locals knew about them - or thought they did.

Exhibits in this small town collection would include:

- The toilet seat on which Elvis died
- Buddy Holly's return ticket
- The horse who was the ventriloquist behind Mr. Ed's success (although some said his voice sounded more like Cher's)
- The other half of Mama Cass's sandwich
- Patsy Kline's AAA Triptic
- Karen Carpenter's last meal
- James Dean's unused seat belt
- John Wayne's ash tray collection
- Fathers' Day cards which Marvin Gaye never sent
- Marilyn Monroe's night light
- Invitations to Greta Garbo's open house
- A copy of Miss Manners' book once owned by Leo Durocher
- Little Orphan Annie's lost pupils
- Bob Dylan's spelling bee award
- Howard Hughes' real will
- Shirley Temple's copy of an English/Ghanian dictionary
- Marlene Deitrich's spare dress
- Teddy Kennedy's scuba diving gear
- JFK's little black book
- Michael Jackson's lost barrette
- A stuffed replica of one of the alternative Lassies

Oh, well. It's just another listing of local ideas of still more things that help to set this creative neighborhood apart from the rest of the world. And these lists will probably continue - as long as there's an empty piece of commercial real estate on the block.

Ypsi Food Co-op
Celebrating our 18th Birthday
(10th year in Depot Town)
Saturday, April 17
• Samples & Birthday treats using natural ingredients
• Live music
• 2pm Orientation

Sun. 12-5, M,T,Th, F 10-8 Wed. 10-9 Sat. 9-8
312 N. RIVER ST. 483-1520

A Depot Town SAMPLER

Recycling is what this block's all about

Who would have thought that the historic preservation movement would become a bellwether for a cause to reverse the filling up of the local dump? When all those folks started coming down to the block in search of antique furniture, glassware, and vintage clothing, did anyone expect them to be out back sorting trash next? How did we get from the posture of restoring Victorian buildings to stacking our newspapers, bottle and cans?

Only a generation ago we were sure that newer was better and, if we didn't have a use for something, we'd just throw it away and get a new one. All that has changed, and the ethics of preservation and re-use have become one of the most exciting activities in this block.

In true Ypsilanti tradition, we've been able to politicize the arena, too, and the issue of recycling - and who should do it - is before us in the every election.

Just a few years ago neighbors seemed to take as much pride in how they had saved a local building as they did in what they did with all the junk that had piled up in it over the years. Whether it was a stack of last week's newspapers or a mountain of building materials, how they were getting rid of the left-overs - short of the Victorian tradition of throwing them into the Huron River - was one of the hottest and friendliest topics in town.

But all that has changed, as giant conglomerates vie for positions of power in managing the local land fills and solid waste recycling processes. There's big money in such contracts, and recent City elections have focused on who gets the contract and how the contracts work.

One of the key issues in this month's mayoral election has also become related to the concept of changing the city's charter. One thing that seems to get recycled most often in Ypsilanti is the concept of popular issues on which to try to influence each other.

There may be arguments about how to do it, but almost everyone seems to agree that preservation and recycling are paramount, today.

Teachers Shop
& LEARNING CENTER, LTD.
All materials for Classroom & Curricula
Your K12 CONNECTION
(313) 482-6373
16 E. Cross Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Depot Doo
Fine Design in Hair Style

25 East Cross • 484-3045

Hon's
Flowers & Fancies
46 East Cross
482-2124

Ike's Depot
483-6300
BARBERSHOP

40 East Cross

Baked On Automotive Finishes • Complete Collision Repair
CITY BODY EST. 1930
CARSTAR
20 E. Cross Street
482-4737 • 482-9353 • Fax: 482-0181
Scott Sobbry Bruce Sobbry

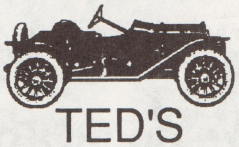
Freeman Bunting Insurance Agency
107 West Michigan Avenue
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197
Telephone: 482-4732
• Betty Campbell • Jim Campbell
• Nancy Petosky • Chuck Conklin
• Mary Lou Linke • Ken Burcaw
Security through insurance since 1921

Aubree's

SALOON
35 East Cross Street
Since 1873

Ad Art
313-483-4256
517-592-8708
Design and Layout
Typeset for ads, brochures, books, manuscripts, resumés, catalogues.
Complete production, graphics, consulting

J & R Trading Post
Antique & Gift Mall
Many old toys • glassware • records
lamps • furniture • jewelry
gifts • cards
Snack Shop with
Old Fashioned Ice Cream
19 E. Cross 483-5870


TED'S
Auto Electric
307 North River • 483-1238

Richard Reid's Hair Station
Tuesday through Saturday
from 9 am and by appointment
• Lynn Harden • Joyce Wilder • Richard Reid •
485-8228

We extend special thanks to both our new and continuing sponsors. Let them know they're appreciated! -ed.